Quality and safety

New issue of Quick Safety on understanding needs of diverse populations

The COVID-19 pandemic has shed a light on the many gaps in health care that diverse populations have experienced for decades.

As integral parts of their communities, hospitals and medical centers need to understand the diverse populations they serve, including minority groups and vulnerable populations. Disparities in health care are major patient safety and quality concerns which should be addressed by organizations with the same level of urgency as other health care-acquired conditions. There is a growing need – socially, politically, morally, and ethically – to address the health and well-being of diverse populations in communities throughout the U.S.

A new issue of Quick Safety — “Issue 60: Understanding the needs of diverse populations in your community” — examines this topic and offers safety issues to consider.

Read Quick Safety.

Take 5 podcast recognizes individual winner of 2020 Eisenberg Award

In celebration of the 2020 John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety and Quality Award recipients, a new special Take 5 podcast series launched to showcase the winners and the extraordinary work they are doing.

The Eisenberg Awards — which are named after the late John M. Eisenberg, MD, MBA, former administrator of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality — were launched in 2002 and recognize major achievements by individuals and organizations to improve patient safety and health care quality. There are three recipients each year: for an individual; an organization impacting quality care at a national level; and an organization impacting quality care at a local level.

In the second episode, Dr. David M. Gaba talks about his expansive career as a mentor, researcher, scholar, physician, and institutional leader. Dr. Gaba is staff anesthesiologist and founder and director of the Simulation Center at the VA Palo Alto Health Care System. He also is a Professor of Anesthesiology, Perioperative and Pain Medicine, and Associate Dean for Immersive and Simulation-based Learning at the Stanford University School of Medicine.

Dr. Gaba’s innovative contributions lead the field in three areas:

- Invention, use and commercialization of modern mannequin-based simulation.
- Adaptation of Crew Resource Management (CRM) from aviation to use within anesthesiology was adapted by Dr. Gaba’s group in the late 1980s as part of simulation-based training.

The series also features episodes recognizing:

- Northwestern Medicine
- Veteran’s Health Administration (Coming July 20)

Listen to the podcast. [12:26]
Accreditation and certification

Updated data registry requirements for specific Advanced DSC Certification programs
Effective Jan. 1, 2022, The Joint Commission is modifying the data collection requirement for specific certification programs. The revised language clarifies that organizations can participate in audited registries that collect state, regional or national data. The affected programs are:

- Acute Stroke Ready Hospital (ASRH)
- Comprehensive Cardiac Center (CCC)
- Comprehensive Stroke Center (CSC)
- Primary Stroke Center (PSC)
- Thrombectomy-capable Stroke Center (TSC)
- Ventricular Assist Device (VAD)

Additionally, The Joint Commission developed a definition for audited registry: “A state, regional, or national registry that collects patient data including, but not limited to, patient demographics, comorbidities, treatments, and process and outcome measures. Audited registries perform data quality audits to confirm data validity and inter-rater reliability. Additionally, participation in an audited registry allows for benchmarking, which provides organizations an opportunity to improve or validate clinical practice and monitor the effectiveness of a service or intervention.”

Participation in an audited registry facilitates an organized approach to performance measurement and improvement, including data collection and analysis. Registries that perform audits ensure data validity and inter-rater reliability. The Joint Commission requires that information obtained from an audited registry be used by its certified organizations to compare their performance to other organizations by state, region, or nationally.

View the prepublication standards. (Contact: Angela Murray, amurray@jointcommission.org)

Performance measurement

CCE webinar on wound improvement in home care settings scheduled for July 28
A Continuous Customer Engagement (CCE) webinar focused on wound improvement in home care settings is scheduled for July 28. The topic was identified by The Joint Commission’s performance measure dashboard as an area that accredited home care organizations can improve.

The free webinar — which will take place from 9-10 a.m. PT / 10-11 a.m. MT / 11 a.m.-noon CT / noon to 1 p.m. ET — will feature presentations from One at Home-Dade and Integris Home Care Enid on how they improved the condition of surgical wounds in their organizations. The webinar aims to:

- Give evidence-based best practices regarding wound improvement post-operatively.
- Identify common performance and outcome challenges in wound improvement post-operatively.
- Prepare participants to implement at least one new best-practice related to wound improvement post-operatively and improve outcomes in the learner’s facility.

The webinar also offers 1.0 Continuing Education (CE) credit for those who:

- Individually register for the webinar.
- Listen to the live webinar in its entirety. Only those listening live during the session will be eligible to receive credit.
- Complete a post-program evaluation/attestation. The program evaluation/attestation link will be sent to your registered email after the webinar.

The webinar recording and slides will be available approximately two hours after the session concludes.

Register.
Resources

Up in the blogosphere with The Joint Commission

Improvement Insights — Northwestern Medicine Academy for Quality and Safety: Although an increasing number of students and trainees in health care professions are receiving quality improvement (QI) education, many practicing professionals have not. Therefore, relatively few practicing health care professionals are equipped to lead QI or serve as mentors for others. Perhaps more importantly, little is known about the effect of QI education programs on participants’ subsequent engagement in QI activities, writes Kevin J. O’Leary, MD, MS, Associate Vice Chair for Quality, Department of Medicine, Chief of Hospital Medicine in the Department of Medicine, John T. Clarke Professor of Medicine, Hospital Medicine.

Learn more about Joint Commission Resources’ offerings online or call 877-223-6866.